## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

- A method for removing etching residue from a substrate which comprises contacting said substrate with a composition comprising
  - a. up to about 80% by weight of a water miscible organic solvent;
  - b. about 5 to about 50% by weight of water;
  - c. about 1 to about 20% by weight of a dicarboxylic organic acid;
  - about 0.5 to about 20% by weight of a base, which in combination
    with the above diacid, forms a buffering agent; and
  - e. about 0.1 to about 10% by weight of a source of fluoride ion.
- The method of claim 1 wherein the dicarboxylic organic acid is selected from the group consisting of oxalic, malonic, succinic, glutaric, adipic acids, fumaric acid, maleic acid, phthalic acid and terephthalic acid.
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the dicarboxylic organic acid is selected from the group consisting of succinic acid, malonic acid, maleic acid, adipic acid and phthalic acid.
- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the dicarboxylic organic acid is maleic acid or adipic acid.
- 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the dicarboxylic organic acid is adipic acid.
- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the base is selected from the group consisting of ammonium hydroxide, amines, and quaternary ammonium hydroxides.
  - 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the base comprises ammonium hydroxide or monoethanolamine.
  - 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the fluoride ion source is selected from the group consisting of hydrofluoric acid, ammonium fluoride, quaternary ammonium fluorides, fluoroborates, fluoroboric acid, tin bifluoride, antimony fluoride,

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- tetrabutylammonium tetrafluoroborate, aluminum hexafluoride, and a fluoride salt of an aliphatic primary, secondary or tertiary amine having the following formula:  $R_1N(R_3)R_2$  wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  each individually represent H or an alkyl group.
- 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the fluoride ion source comprises ammonium fluoride.
- 10. The method of claim 1 wherein the amount of water miscible organic solvent is about 1% to about 80% by weight.
- 11. The method of claim 1 wherein the water miscible organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of dimethylacetamide, N-methyl pyrrolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, dimethylformamide, N-methylformamide, formamide, dimethyl-2-piperidone, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, glycerol, and ethylene glycol.
- 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the water miscible organic solvent comprises dimethylacetamide, dimethyl-2-piperidone or N-methyl pyrrolidinone.
- 13. The method of claim 1 wherein the pH of the composition is about 1 to about 7.
- 15 14. The method of claim 1 wherein the pH of the composition is about 5.5 to about 6.
  - 15. The method of claim 1 wherein the composition is free from benzotriazole.
  - 16. The method of claim 1 wherein the substrate also includes a material selected from the group consisting of metal, silicon, silicate and interlevel dielectric material.
- 20 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the inter-level dielectric material comprises silicon oxides or derivatized silicon oxides.
  - 18. The method of claim 16 wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of copper, copper alloy, titanium, titanium nitride, tantalum, tantalum nitride, tungsten, titanium/tungsten, aluminum and/or aluminum alloys.